

CLAIMS

[1] A method of introducing gene into plant material via Agrobacterium, comprising:

- 5 1) pressurizing the plant material, and then
 2) infecting the plant material with an Agrobacterium.

[2] The method of claim 1 wherein pressurization is performed in the range of 1.7 atmospheres to 10 atmospheres.

10 [3] The method of claim 2 wherein pressurization is performed in the range of 2.4 atmospheres to 8 atmospheres.

[4] The method of any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein pressurization is performed for 0.1 second to 4 hours.

15 [5] The method of claim 4 wherein pressurization is performed for 1 second to 30 minutes.

[6] The method of any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein pressurization is performed in a liquid or gas.

[7] The method of any one of claims 1 to 6 further comprising subjecting the plant material to at least one
20 treatment selected from the group consisting of heat treatment, centrifugation and sonication before or during the step 2) of infecting the plant material with an Agrobacterium.

[8] The method of any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the
25 plant material is a monocotyledon.

[9] The method of any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the plant material is rice or maize.

[10] The method of any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the

plant material is a dicotyledon.

[11] The method of any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the plant material is tobacco.

[12] The method of any one of claims 1 to 11 wherein the
5 plant material is an immature embryo.

[13] The method of any one of claims 1 to 12, subsequently to the step 2) of infecting the plant material with an Agrobacterium, further comprising the steps of:

- 3) selecting a transformant, and
- 10 4) optionally regenerating the selected transformant.

[14] The method of any one of claims 1 to 13 wherein the gene introduction efficiency is improved as compared with cases wherein the step 1) of pressurization is not conducted.

15 [15] A method for producing a transformed plant, comprising:

- 1) pressurizing a plant material,
- 2) infecting the plant material with an Agrobacterium,
- 3) selecting a transformed cell, and
- 20 4) optionally regenerating the selected transformant.